

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 21-23 without prejudice.

Please amend the following claims:

1. (amended) A retaining panel for a body of water, the retaining panel comprising:
- a continuous central portion having a first end and a second end;
 - a first side portion integrally connected to and extending rearwardly at a first angle from said first end of said central portion, said first side portion having a rear end;
 - a second side portion integrally connected to and extending rearwardly at a second angle from said second end of said central portion, said second side portion having a rear end;
 - a first flange integrally connected to and extending from said rear end of said first side portion, said first flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said first flange defining a female connecting portion, said distal portion of said first flange extending forwardly at a third angle from said proximal portion of said first flange to said female connecting portion; and
 - a second flange integrally connected to and extending from said rear end of said second side portion, said second flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said second flange defining a male connecting portion, said distal portion of said second flange extending

forwardly at a fourth angle from said proximal portion of said second flange and terminating with said male connecting portion;

wherein said retaining panel has a width of at least about 24 inches and is adapted to be connected to a substantially similar, adjacent retaining panel by inserting said male connecting portion of said retaining panel into said female connecting portion of said adjacent retaining panel.

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~~14~~. (amended) A retaining panel for a body of water, said retaining panel comprising:

a continuous central portion having a first end and a second end;

a first side portion integrally connected to and extending at a first angle from said first end of said central portion, said first side portion having a rear end;

a second side portion integrally connected to and extending at a second angle from said second end of said central portion, said second angle approximately equal to said first angle, said second side portion having a rear end;

a first flange integrally connected to and extending at a third angle from said rear end of said first side portion, said first flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said first flange defining a female connecting portion, said distal portion of said first flange extending at a fifth angle from said proximal portion of said first flange to said female connecting portion; and

a second flange integrally connected to and extending at a fourth angle from said rear end of said second side portion, said second flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said second

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flange defining a male connecting portion, said distal portion of said second flange extending at a sixth angle from said proximal portion of said second flange and terminating with said male connecting portion;

wherein said retaining panel has a width of at least about 24 inches and is adapted to be connected to a substantially similar, adjacent retaining panel by inserting said male connecting portion of said retaining panel into said female connecting portion of said adjacent retaining panel.

21/10. (amended) A retaining panel of one-piece construction for a body of water, said retaining panel comprising:

a central portion having a first end and a second end;

a first side portion integrally connected to and extending at a first angle from said first end of said central portion, said first side portion having a rear end;

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a second side portion integrally connected to and extending at a second angle from said second end of said central portion, said second side portion having a rear end, said second angle approximately equal to said first angle, the length of said second side portion approximately equal to the length of said first side portion;

a first flange integrally connected to and extending at a third angle from said rear end of said first side portion, said first flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said first flange defining a female connecting portion, said distal portion of said first flange extending at a fifth angle from said proximal portion of said first flange to said female connecting portion; and

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a second flange integrally connected to and extending at a fourth angle from said rear end of said second side portion, said fourth angle approximately equal to said third angle, said second flange having a proximal portion and a distal portion, said distal portion of said second flange defining a male connecting portion, said distal portion of said second flange extending at a sixth angle from said proximal portion of said second flange and terminating with said male connecting portion;

wherein said retaining panel has a width of at least about 24 inches and is adapted to be interlocked with a substantially similar, adjacent retaining panel by inserting said male connecting portion of said retaining panel into said female connecting portion of said adjacent retaining panel.

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Please add the following new claims:

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24. (new) The retaining panel of claim 1 wherein:

said female connecting portion is substantially C-shaped;

said male connecting portion is substantially T-shaped; and

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said distal portion of said second flange levels to being substantially parallel to said proximal portion of said second flange prior to terminating with said male connecting portion.

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25. (new) The retaining panel of claim 14¹⁵ wherein:

said female connecting portion is substantially C-shaped;

said male connecting portion is substantially T-shaped; and

said distal portion of said second flange levels to being substantially parallel to
said proximal portion of said second flange prior to terminating with said male
connecting portion.

 ¹³ 26. (new) The retaining panel of claim ²¹ ~~19~~ wherein:

 said female connecting portion is substantially C-shaped;

said male connecting portion is substantially T-shaped; and

said distal portion of said second flange levels to being substantially parallel to
said proximal portion of said second flange prior to terminating with said male
connecting portion.
